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TERROR ATTACK ROCKS NYC

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MORGAN ROUSSEAU, MANAGING EDITOR

New Yorkers are on edge after the second terror attack in six weeks sent shock waves through the city yesterday. This time, a Bangladeshi suicide bomber set off a homemade pipe bomb in a pedestrian subway passage. Fortunately, no one was killed, and the suspect was arrested. But questions linger about the safety of the city and other metro areas across the nation. Visit Metro.us for continued coverage of this heinous act.

Rush-hour attack rocks NYC

NIKKI M. MASCALI
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"We're not going to allow them to disrupt us," said New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

A homemade pipe bomb strapped to a man's body detonated at a bustling New York City transit hub Monday morning, injuring himself and three bystanders in what Mayor Bill DeBlasio called a terror attack.

The explosion went off at 7:20 a.m. in a subway tunnel at the Port Authority Bus Terminal, just a block from Times Square. Commuters fled the scene as the blast echoed out and filled parts of the building with smoke.

Police arrested the suspect, Akayed Ullah, shortly after. Ullah, 27, is an immigrant from Bangladesh who lives in Brooklyn. He was taken to a local hospital with severe injuries, including burns to his body, officials said.

Law enforcement officials said the improvised explosive device was akin to a pipe bomb, which he'd apparently learned to make on the internet.

"This was a terror attack in our subway," de Blasio said at a press conference on 42nd Street just before 10 a.m. "There was one individual who, thank God, was unsuccessful in his aims."

NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill did confirm that Ullah made a statement before the device detonated, but when asked if it may have been in support of the Islamic State group (ISIS), he said, "We're not going to talk about that right now," nor would he discuss Ullah's history or if he was known to authorities.

"It is very frightening and disturbing when you hear about a bomb in the subway station," Gov. Andrew Cuomo said, calling it a "worst nightmare." "But the reality is that we are a target by many who would like to make a statement against freedom."

"We're not going to allow them to disrupt us — that is exactly what they want and exactly what they're not going to get," the governor added.

Three bystanders in the vicinity of the explosion suffered non-life-threatening injuries, which included ringing ears and headaches, FDNY Commissioner Daniel Nigro said, and were treated at area hospitals.

The explosion came just weeks after Sayfullo Saipov drove a rented truck down a Lower Manhattan bike path on Halloween, killing eight people and injuring a dozen others. Saipov had expressed support for ISIS in that attack.

Monday's blast brought the city's subway system to a standstill until late morning, though transit authorities said they expected service to return to normal later that day.

"Now, the mission is to secure all major transit hubs and sites," de Blasio said, adding that New Yorkers can expect an "expanded NYPD presence today."

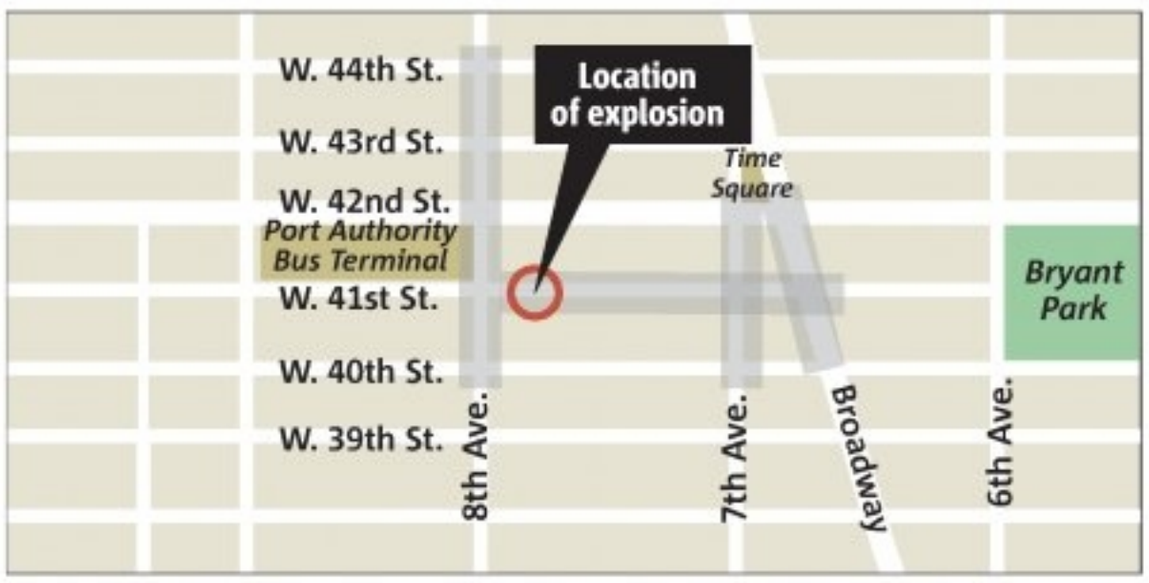
"This is the most resilient place on Earth," he said. "We're going to keep being New Yorkers. Let's get back to work."

New York Police officers stand outside the New York Port Authority after an explosion on Monday morning. ALL PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

"We're not going to allow them to disrupt us — that is exactly what they want and exactly what they're not going to get."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo

NYPD officers were deployed near the subway entrances at the Port Authority Bus Terminal.



Police and other first responders respond to the explosion at the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

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Philadelphia law enforcement step up patrols after NYC terror attack

"We don't get tired of the tips," said SEPTA's police chief. "We want those calls all the time."

SAM NEWHOUSE
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sam.newhouse@metro.us

An alleged terrorist's detonation of a pipe bomb under the Port Authority in New York City's Times Square on Monday morning prompted Philadelphia law enforcement to step up patrols and security across mass transit lines.

"Every police department is concerned that it's an organized effort, maybe an attack in multiple cities," said SEPTA police chief Thomas Nestel III at a press conference on Monday, "so we implement a higher visibility posture, and we did that today."

SEPTA K-9 units and police patrolling on motorized vehicles were seen around SEPTA's Suburban Station in Center City Monday.

But the attack on New York City appeared as of Monday evening to have been an isolated incident, allegedly perpetrated by Akayed Ullah, 27, a Bangladeshi national, Brooklyn resident and former cab driver.

Nestel and Philadelphia Police Department Deputy Commissioner Dennis Wilson assured the public Monday that law enforcement is closely monitoring activity in the city and communicating with national and federal officials to protect Philadelphia.

"I think we're safe here in Philadelphia," Wilson said. "We're diligent. We have a lot of people that spend their lives trying to disrupt this type of event."

But they also urged the public to continue alerting them about any possible concerns or threats.

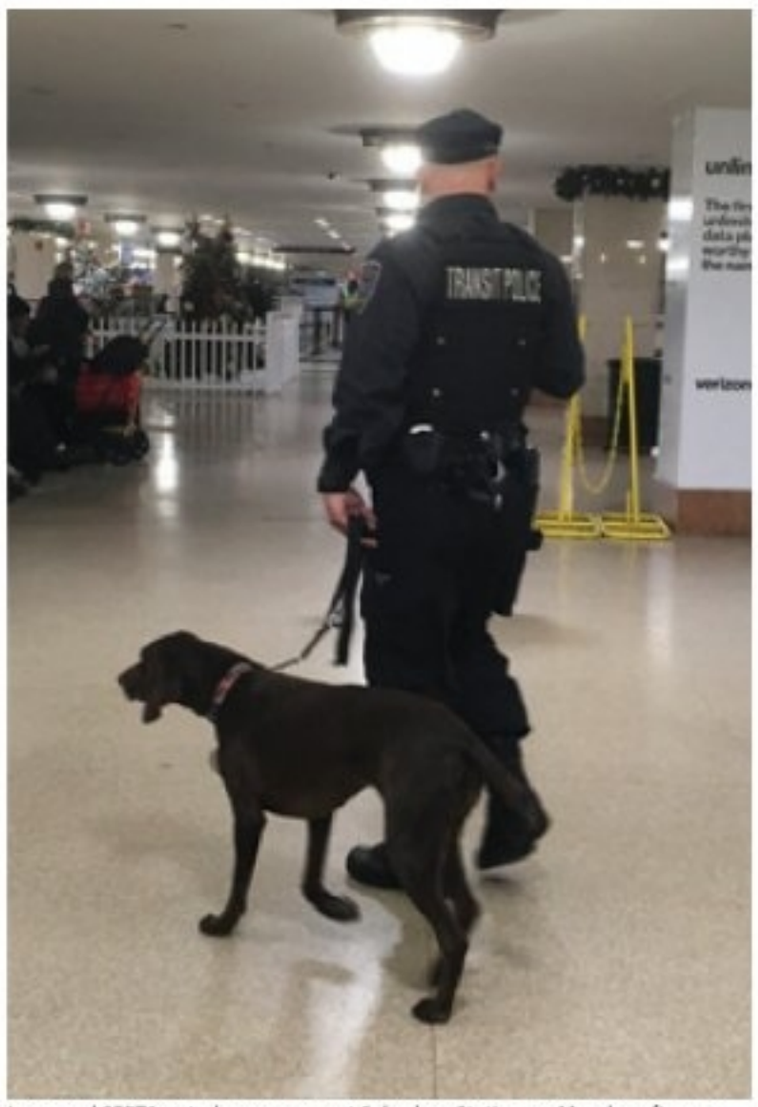
"After an incident like this we always see a spike in the number of calls from people," Nestel said. "We want those calls all the time. We don't get tired of the tips and the tips are taken seriously."

Whether it's an unattended bag, citizens accessing sensitive areas of transit facilities or any other suspicious behavior, members of the public are "eyes and ears" for law enforcement, Wilson and Nestel said.

"A family member asked me, 'What exactly is suspicious?'" Nestel said. "It's when the hair on the back of your neck stands up, or when you look twice at something and say, 'That doesn't look right' — we want to know."

To contact Philly police with a tip, call 215-686-TIPS (8477), or text a tip to PPDTIP 773847.

Contact SEPTA police at 215-580-8111 or report incidents using the SEPTA Transit Watch app.



Increased SEPTA patrols were seen at Suburban Station on Monday after an alleged attempted terrorist attack in nearby New York City. SAM NEWHOUSE

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PPA relaunches meterUp app as fallout continues from recent audit

The PPA brings back its smartphone app for paying tickets, even as it is rumored to be under federal investigation.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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sam.newhouse@metro.us

The Philadelphia Parking Authority is making it a lot easier for drivers to pay for parking with the return of their meterUp smartphone app, which launched Monday.

But the app isn't likely to help anyone forget that the authority is under fire for a multitude of problems, including alleged excessive salaries, after a new report emerged claiming the top PPA official will receive the largest payout ever from Philly's infamous Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) program.

Deputy Executive Director Rick Dickson is set to collect $655,000 upon retirement in 2021, the Inquirer reported Monday. Dickson reportedly got into the program three days before City Council amended its rules in 2011 and lowered interest rates after widespread backlash against DROP.

The program allows city employees to start receiving a city pension before they retire. Those payments go into interest-bearing accounts, and they receive the entire balance upon retirement. Dickson's account has an interest rate of 4.5 percent, while the interest rate for new DROP applicants is around 0.85 percent, according to the Inquirer.

Dickson currently earns $208,153 a year for his role at the Authority and is expected to, after retirement, get a yearly pension of $150,000, in addition to the DROP payout. (The PPA had no comment on the story.)

Meanwhile, the PPA, despite undertaking numerous reforms after disgraced former Executive Director Vince Fenerty resigned 15 months ago, is reportedly under investigation by the FBI.

A former employee told the Inquirer last week that FBI agents questioned him about the PPA's red-light camera program. (A PPA spokesman said the FBI has not contacted the Authority. The FBI as policy does not confirm or deny any investigations.)

State Auditor General Eugene DePasquale vowed he would refer the Authority to law enforcement after releasing a stinging report last week. He called the PPA "a bastion of political patronage" and called for a complete overhaul and return of the Authority to local control.

One accusation was "excessive salary increases." Specifically, the report said that "30 senior-level management employees" collectively got a 19.4 percent pay hike — $621,000 — from July 1, 2014 to Oct. 31, 2016, "which appears to be excessive."

The meterUp app (available on both iOs and Android) was first launched in November 2015 and then shut down in April due to "revenue shortfalls" experienced by the app's operator.

Now it's back as part of a partnership with Parkmobile, LLC. While currently only active at kiosks with meterUp signs, it is planned to soon expand citywide.

The app, which allows users to add more parking time from their phone without rushing to a kiosk, will "improve convenience and the overall parking experience in Philadelphia," PPA Executive Director Clarena Tolson said in a press release.

A PPA employee writing a ticket. METRO FILE PHOTO

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$2 Sex Pill From China Does What $50 Sex Pills In The U.S. Cannot

Approved by top doctors; proven in 13 U.S. clinical trials to turbo charge libido levels, trigger harder, longer lasting erections and give men "mind blowing" orgasms

By J. Whitsed
National Media Syndicate

NMS—A pill that restores a man's sex drive and triggers strong, long lasting erections without side effects has been used in China for 63 years. It is now available in the United States.

This amazing pill contains ingredients that not only resolve sexual health problems in men, but also boost lost testosterone levels in the body.

It also cuts your sex pill costs up to 82% less than using medications like Viagra.

An improved version of this pill is now being offered in the United States by the American Institute of Longevity under the brand name Viotren.

Viotren restores male libido levels. It relieves performance anxiety. It triggers powerful erections that are easier and faster to achieve, too. It even contains an ingredient that "switches off" the chemical in a man's body that causes his erections to go soft.

Viotren is also safe and good for your overall health. It does not cause harmful side effects associated with Viagra, Levitra, and Cialis.

Triggers a massive release of testosterone in the body

Viotren contains ingredients that trigger a massive release of testosterone in the body. As a result, your sex drive is quickly restored. So is your ability to get and maintain an erection.

Thirteen clinical studies have now been conducted on Viotren's active ingredient here in the U.S. The results show men report being more easily aroused. They report harder, longer lasting erections, too. They also report being more passionate during love making. The pill even improves muscle strength, energy levels, and physical stamina.

Kiernan Mills, Director of the American Institute of Longevity said, "The origin of Viotren is in ancient Oriental medicine. Scientists now know that there are many remedies from Oriental medicine that are proving very effective in clinical studies."

This particular Oriental remedy was brought to market commercially by a Chinese pharmaceutical company in 1953. But they took it a step further. They took the ingredients in the remedy that triggered the amazing sexual benefits in men and they put them into a pill.

When the pill absorbs into the body, the ingredients are released into the blood where they begin restoring testosterone and libido levels.

The American Institute of Longevity has developed an improved pill which includes more potent and faster absorbing forms of each ingredient. The former pill, while incredibly effective, was slower to work in the body.

Stronger, Longer Lasting Erections In 72-Hours

There are many benefits to a sex pill that restores testosterone levels.

First of all, the sexual improvements are felt in days. You don't have to wait weeks or months. Improvements in your sex drive and ability to get and maintain an erection start within the first 72-hours.

Going directly to the source of male sexual problems — i.e., low testosterone — has this major health benefit: you don't have to take risky drugs that cause harmful side effects anymore. By restoring lost testosterone levels, you simply "reset" your sex drive to the way it used to be when you were a younger man.

New Sex Pill: Top doctors are now recommending new Viotren to men; 13 clinical studies show active ingredient boosts sexual desire; triggers stronger longer-lasting erections.

Not only is Viotren safe to use, but, it also helps to improve blood circulation throughout the body. This further improves your ability to get an erection and maintain it for the entire duration of sex.

What Doctors Are Saying

"Many Viotren users note an increased sense of well-being, vitality, and sexual performance in the first 30 days," said Dr. Holly Lucille, who has appeared on award winning T.V. shows like The Doctors, and PBS's Healing Quest.

"I recommend Viotren to men who find it difficult to become aroused. It does wonders for your sexual appetite. Your sexual sensitivity. Even for your staying power and stamina," said Dr. Vincent Leaper, M.D.

"Viotren is a good choice for men who feel they have passed their peak. The results of using this pill can be an in- crease in energy levels, vigor, and a decrease in depressive mood," said Dr. Decker Weiss, Integrative Cardiologist and Professional Committee Member of the America Heart Association.

Double Money Back Guarantee

In addition, the makers of Viotren claim this pill works for almost every man. And so, they are willing to put their money where their mouth is to prove it.

"If men use Viotren exactly as directed, they will see a huge spike in testosterone… a massive increase in sexual desire… a boost in bedroom performance… and stronger, longer lasting erections that are faster and easier to achieve," said Mills.

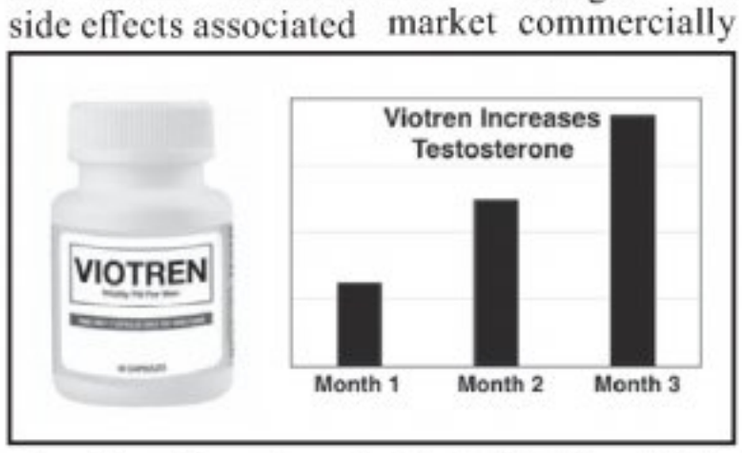
"And if for any reason that does not happen, which is highly unlikely, we'll go ahead and issue each man a double your money back refund. We can only offer a guarantee like this because we know Viotren works and men love it," he added.

How To Get Viotren

This is the official nationwide release of Viotren in the United States. And so, the company is offering a special discount supply to any man who calls within the next 48-hours.

Starting at 7:00 AM today, the order hotline will be open for 48-hours. All you have to do is call TOLL-FREE **1-888-586-1970** and provide the operator with the special discount approval code: BRF179. The company will do the rest.

Important: Due to Viotren's recent media exposure on CBS, CNN, MSNBC, and FOX News, phone lines are often busy. If you call and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back. Those who miss the 48 hour deadline may be forced to pay full price for Viotren.



These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. All doctors mentioned are remunerated for their services. All clinical studies on Viotren's active ingredient were independently conducted and were not sponsored by the American Institute of Longevity.

Who is Akayed Ullah, the suspect in the Port Authority bombing?

An explosion occurred in the subway near the transit hub Monday morning, and police have the alleged culprit in custody.

KRISTIN TOUSSAINT
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Akayed Ullah, a 27-year-old man, reportedly detonated a pipe bomb in the subway near Times Square on Monday morning, NYPD said, causing minor injuries and disrupting multiple trains.

Ullah is at Bellevue Hospital on Manhattan's East Side. He sustained burns and wounds to his body from the bomb, which was strapped to his body, as is consistent with a suicide bomber, officials said. NYPD have called the incident a terror attack.

Ullah is a Bangladeshi national who was inspired by ISIS, law-enforcement officials told the Associated Press.

When asked if he is connected to ISIS, NYPD Commissioner James P. O'Neill said, "He did make statements" on the way to the hospital, but O'Neill did not elaborate.

Police were investigating Ullah's Brooklyn apartment Monday morning. Ullah came to the United States about seven years ago, a U.S. official told The Daily Beast.

There are few details known about Ullah's background. The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission confirmed that a man named Akayed Ullah was previously licensed with it.

Akayed Ullah is in custody after detonating a pipe bomb attached to his body Monday morning, NYPD said. NYC TLC

Ullah used to hold a "For-Hire Vehicle" license, which covers black cars and livery cars. Ullah held that license, which has since lapsed, from March 2012 to March 2015. He did not hold a license to work as a taxi driver, a TLC spokesperson said.

The bomb was an "improvised, low-tech device," officials said. Ullah reportedly told police that he made the device at the electrical company where he works, according to the New York Post.

Officials reported four injuries in total from the explosion, including Ullah. All of those injuries are not life threatening, FDNY said. Officials believe the pipe bomb detonated earlier than planned. The occurred in the 42nd Street pedestrian tunnel between Port Authority and Times Square around 7:20 a.m.

Ullah is believed to have carried out this attack on his own. Though he was reportedly inspired by ISIS, he did not have contact with the terrorist organization, the AP reported. Officials said that there are no other known threats.

"At this point in time, all we know of is one individual who, thank God, was unsuccessful in his aims," Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a news conference Monday morning. "There are also no credible and specific threats against New York City at this time."

The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force is conducting a full background investigation into Ullah. Officials are asking anyone who may have information about him or the attack to call the terror hot line at 888-NYC-SAFE.

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Lung Center
TEMPLE HEALTH

Trump makes robo-call for Moore as Democrat Jones takes lead in Alabama race

Moore got a formal endorsement last week from Trump, who also had to battle accusations of sexual harassment during his 2016 presidential race.

Republican Roy Moore has been accused of sexual misconduct. GETTY IMAGES

President Donald Trump sought to boost Republican U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore by releasing a recorded phone call on his behalf in the final stretch of a bitter Alabama election fight marked by accusations of sexual misconduct against Moore.

Moore, 70, a conservative Christian and former Alabama Supreme Court justice, will face off in Tuesday's election against Democrat Doug Jones, 63, a former U.S. attorney.

On Monday, the eve of the election, the Moore campaign is rolling out a robo-call with Trump's voice telling voters that if they do not support the Republican candidate, progress on his agenda will be "stopped cold."

Democrats decided to make robo-calls using two of their party's own big guns — former President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden.

The race has divided Trump's Republican Party and given Democrats a rare opening in deeply conservative Alabama, which has sent only Republicans to the U.S. Senate for the past 20 years.

A Fox News Poll released on Monday put Jones ahead of Moore, with Jones potentially taking 50 percent of the vote and Moore 40 percent. Fox said 8 percent of voters were undecided and 2 percent support another candidate.

Moore has maintained a low profile, refusing interview requests and holding few public events. .

While Trump, who swept Alabama in the 2016 presidential election, backs Moore, many other national Republicans, such Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, have distanced themselves after Moore was accused last month by several women of pursuing them when they were teenagers and he was in his 30s. One woman accused him of trying to seduce her when she was 14. REUTERS

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DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED

US military must accept transgender recruits by Jan. 1, judge rules

The Pentagon, headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense GETTY IMAGES

Transgender recruits will be able to join the U.S. military as of Jan. 1, a federal judge ruled on Monday, denying a request by President Donald Trump's administration to enforce his ban on transgender troops while the government appeals an order blocking it.

U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly in Washington refused to lift part of her Oct. 30 order stopping the ban from taking effect until the case is resolved, because it likely violates the U.S. Constitution's guarantees of due process and equal protection under the law.

The administration had argued that the Jan. 1 deadline was problematic because tens of thousands of personnel would have to be trained on the medical standards needed to process transgender applicants, and the military was not ready for that. Kollar-Kotelly rejected the concerns, saying that preparations for accepting transgender troops were underway during the administration of Trump's predecessor Barack Obama.

"The directive from the Secretary of Defense requiring the military to prepare to begin allowing accession of transgender individuals was issued on June 30, 2016 — nearly one and a half years ago," the judge said.

Several transgender service members filed a lawsuit after Trump announced in July he would ban transgender people from the military, citing concern over military focus and medical costs.

The White House on Monday said the Justice Department was reviewing its options to enforce the president's ban on transgender troops while the government appeals the order blocking it.

"The Department of Justice is currently reviewing the legal options to ensure the president's directive is implemented," White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders told reporters. REUTERS

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15 Celebrities who tied the knot in 2017

Ah, marriage. A bond that is supposed to be eternal, but usually ends up lasting an average of eight years — and that's not even in celebrity time, no siree.
No matter, though. Marriage is always in. Especially for these celebrities, who tied the knot with their partners this year. Here are 15 celebrities that said "I do" in 2017.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Serena Williams and Alexis Ohanian

Williams, 36, and Ohanian, 34, said their "I do's" in a star-studded New Orleans ceremony in November.

Jessica Chastain and Gian Luca Passi de Preposulo

The 40-year-old woke bae and actress married her longtime beau, Gian Luca Passi de Preposulo, 34, in June.

Miranda Kerr and Evan Spiegel

Formerly celibate brunettes Kerr, 34, and Snapchat CEO Spiegel, 26, married in May.

Gucci Mane and Keyshia Ka'oir

Gucci Mane, 37, and his long-suffering longtime girlfriend, Ka'oir, 32, married in an extravagant $1.7 million wedding in Miami this October.

Michael Fassbender and Alicia Vikander

Very serious actors Fassbender, 40, and Vikander, 29, tied the knot in Ibiza in October.

Alison Brie and Dave Franco

"Glow" star Brie, 34 and the younger Franco, 32, confirmed they had one of those low-key top-secret weddings in March.

Amanda Seyfried and Thomas Sadoski

Here are some words used to describe the elopement of actors Seyfried, 31, and Sadoski, 40: intimate, secret, beautiful, in March.

Pippa Middleton and James Matthews

Kate's little sister Pippa Middleton, 34, finally married her very rich beau, James Matthews, 42, in a very posh ceremony in May.

Kate Mara and Jamie Bell

Mara, 34, and Bell, 31, married in a low-key ceremony in July, after a six-month engagement.

Julia Stiles and Preston J. Cook

Stiles, 36, and Cook married over Labor Day with two friends on the beach in Seattle.

Samira Wiley and Lauren Morelli

In May, 30-year-old Wiley — star of "OINTB," "The Handmaid's Tale" — married longtime partner Morelli, 35, in an intimate ceremony in Cali.

Idina Menzel and Aaron Lohr

The 46-year-old "Let It Go" belter Menzel married Lohr, 41, in September.

Patton Oswalt and Meredith Salenger

These two lovebirds, ages 48 and 47, tied the knot in a Jim Henson lot — romantic! — in early November, after a July engagement.

Ali Fedotowsky and Kevin Manno

"The Bachelorette" alum, 33, married longtime beau Manno, 34, in a beachside wedding this March.

RuPaul and Georges LeBar

RuPaul, 57, married his partner of 23 years, Georges LeBar, in January.

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The tao of Jean-Claude Van Damme

"The Muscles from Brussels" opens up about his Amazon series and more.

MATT JUUL
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Jean-Claude van Damme stars in Amazon's new series "Jean-Claude Van Johnson." AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

Jean-Claude Van Damme has been kicking butts and taking names on the big screen for decades. Now fans will get to see another side of the star when his show "Jean-Claude Van Johnson" premieres on Amazon.

In the series, which debuts Dec. 15, Van Damme dips his toes into the comedy waters, playing a past-his-prime, fictionalized version of himself. But "The Muscles from Brussels" doesn't just take on the role of an aging actor looking for a comeback; his character is also an undercover spy who gets into all kinds of trouble, much to the chagrin of his handler and ex-lover Vanessa (Kat Foster).

Van Damme tells Metro that he had a lot of fun showing off his comedic chops—along with his high-flying kicks—in "Jean-Claude Van Johnson."

"I think people will be surprised when they see that," he says. "I really did it over the top. It was the only way to show that I can do something in that area."

Despite his ups and downs, the 57-year-old actor has remained a beloved icon among action movie fans. He credits his longevity in the business to his charisma, something he believes only a handful of martial arts stars have.

In particular, he doesn't think Chuck Norris has that same X factor as Bruce Lee or even an "out of shape" Steven Seagal.

"Charisma, bro. It's true," says Van Damme. "I love Chuck, but Chuck didn't have what Bruce and I have. It's like that click. The click is happening for us.

"And it's real," he adds. "Our moves are real and we believe what we're doing so you can project that energy."

Van Damme began his martial-arts journey as a kid, frequently going toe-to-toe with sparring partners who were much older and stronger than he was. As a comic-book fan, Van Damme was inspired by his favorite heroes to step up his game and hone his physique so he could compete with the big boys.

"They were tough kids and I was scared as s—t," Van Damme says. "I started lifting weights to have a good body. Of course, I fell in love with those comic books. By looking at their bodies, like Spider-Man and Silver Surfer, you see their body shape, so you start to imitate their bodies."

Before diving into the world of movies, Van Damme participated in full-contact karate and kickboxing matches back in the day, earning a slew of knockouts and championships. Van Damme briefly toyed with the idea of returning to the ring against Olympic boxing gold medalist and muay Thai legend Somluck Kamsing during filming for his short-lived, 2011 reality series "Jean-Claude Van Damme: Behind Closed Doors."

These days, Van Damme tries to keep his kicks in the gym, occassionally training with mixed martial artists like UFC champion Georges St-Pierre. At his age, Van Damme would rather watch MMA fights on TV than throwdown in a cage.

However, he admits that dealing with agents and everything that comes with Hollywood can be just as dangerous as a street fight, or even the spy vs. spy moments in "Jean-Claude Van Johnson."

"It can be very dangerous," Van Damme says. "Where you have lots of money, it's always dangerous."

"Jean-Claude Van Johnson" premieres Dec. 15 on Amazon.

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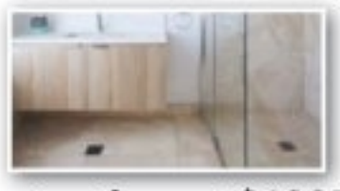

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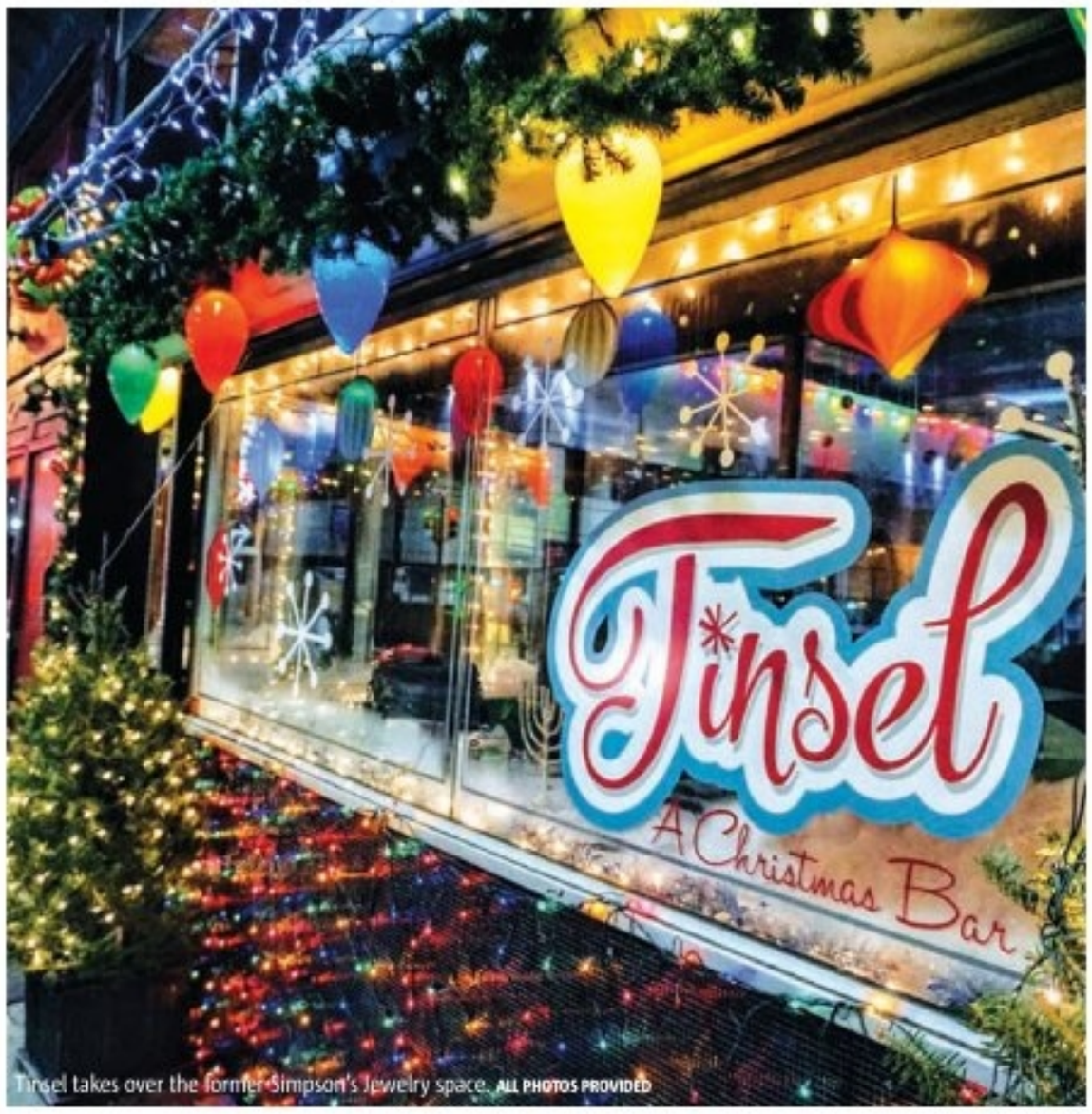
Tinsel Christmas Pop-up



Tinsel takes over the former Simpson's Jewelry space. ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

Even Scrooges will get into the holiday spirit here.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Your holiday drinking escapades just got a whole lot merrier: Tinsel Christmas Pop-up Bar is coming to town!

Taking over the former Simpson's Jewelry space (located at 116 S. 12th St.), the twinkling cocktail spectacle is the brainchild of Teddy Sourias, whose long list of achievements include BRU, U-Bahn, Cinder, Uptown Beer Garden and Finn McCool's Ale House.

"We are excited to continue the expansion of Craft Concepts Group in Midtown Village," says Sourias. "We purchased the 116 S. 12th Street building for future development

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Bar opens in Center City

and we wanted to keep the space activated. Our managers and teams from our other bars and restaurants came up with the idea to do something in the winter when we have downtime from Uptown Beer Garden."

Tinsel Christmas Pop-up Bar features three rooms decked out in holiday flare, complete with Christmas decorations, holiday lights, a toy train and Christmas tree. There's even a custom Krampus mural, designed by local artist Scott Johnston, for those jolly revelers who may have been more naughty than nice this year.

The space spans 1,100+ square feet and what was once a jewelry counter is now a 25-foot bar counter with 12 barstools.

And what will you be eating and drinking?

There will be Christmas cocktails aplenty as well as specialty Christmas beer drafts, focusing on American and Belgian ales. Beginning selections include Troegs Mad Elf (spiced holiday ale, cherries, honey), Hardywood Bourbon Gingerbread Stout (boubon aged milk stout, ginger, cinnamon, vanilla) and Chimay Grande Reserve (Belgian strong, dark ale beer).

Owner Teddy Sourias poses with a Krampus mural by local artist, Scott Johnston

In terms of food, you can nosh on Christmas cookies (yay!), appetizers, sandwiches and other holiday specials.

"Tinsel lets us have some mid-winter fun outside of beer garden season and lets my team showcase their creative abilities in customized this unique jewelry store setting," Sourias adds. "The space also gives us the opportunity to definitely expand out of our comfort zone and showcase our fun and super playful side."

Tinsel will be open Tuesdays through Thursdays (5 p.m. to 10 p.m.), Fridays and Saturdays (2 p.m. to midnight) and Sundays (noon to 5 p.m.) through Dec. 31.

There will be happy hour specials Tuesdays through Fridays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with $5 drafts and a select Christmas cocktail.

For more information, visit: facebook.com/tinselphilly.

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‘Good Morning, New Miami’ takes a hilarious look at climate change

The cast of Good Morning, New Miami!, led by Reem Seliem and Peter Brown, celebrate another successful broadcast. REEM SELIEM

The live satirical comedy show explores what life will be like in the year 2050 when oceans have re-shaped the U.S.

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Climate change is indeed a real—and, of course, very bleak—issue facing the world today. Thankfully, there is a unique comedy show in Philadelphia that not only confronts the issue head-on, but helps its audiences laugh at a time when it is needed most.

“Good Morning, New Miami” is a sketch comedy show held regularly at Good Good Comedy Theater in Chinatown. The show, which has its Christmas performance Sunday, Dec. 17, is a smart comedy that satirizes not only the climate change issue (and society’s somewhat widespread ignorance of it), but also the perky nature of modern morning talk shows. It is set in the year 2050 when oceans have claimed the eastern seaboard of the United States, resulting in the state of West Virginia becoming a coastal area. Situated on the ocean is “New Miami,” where the morning news show “Good Morning New Miami” is broadcast.

The show is the brainchild of local Philadelphia comedian Reem Seliem. A graduate student in Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Seliem knows all too well about the effects of climate change.

“Climate change models are predicting apocalyptic events – meanwhile, science itself is being questioned, the EPA has been gutted and natural disasters are already destroying entire nations,” Seliem said. “It’s not great. But everybody knows that tragedy plus time equals comedy.”

Seliem took advantage of the “How to Produce Your Own Comedy Show” class offered at Good Good Comedy Theater by comedian and theater co-founder Aaron Nevins. “I finally found a way to show people what kind of future could be in store for us while also capturing the absurdity and ignorance that dominates news and talk show cycles,” Seliem explained. “Now it’s one of the only things that give me comfort. Dark comedy is magical in that way.”

“Good Morning, New Miami” premiered in June 2016 and was an instant hit with audiences. Good Good Comedy soon commissioned it for a monthly run and it is currently one of their most popular shows. Seliem and fellow comedian Peter Brown co-host the show, playing overly perky morning TV personalities, complete with “highlighter color” outfits and tropical shirts, who welcome on a rotating cast of absurdly hilarious guests. Comedians Andrew Shearer and Chris McGrail also appear frequently on the show as different, colorful post-apocalyptic characters, contributing their own writing and production skills to the show.

The “Good Morning, New Miami” Christmas show will be followed by a brief hiatus of a few months. Thus, this is the area’s last chance to check out this sharp satire before winter truly sets in. Fortunately, audiences do not have to travel to the theater by boat. Yet.

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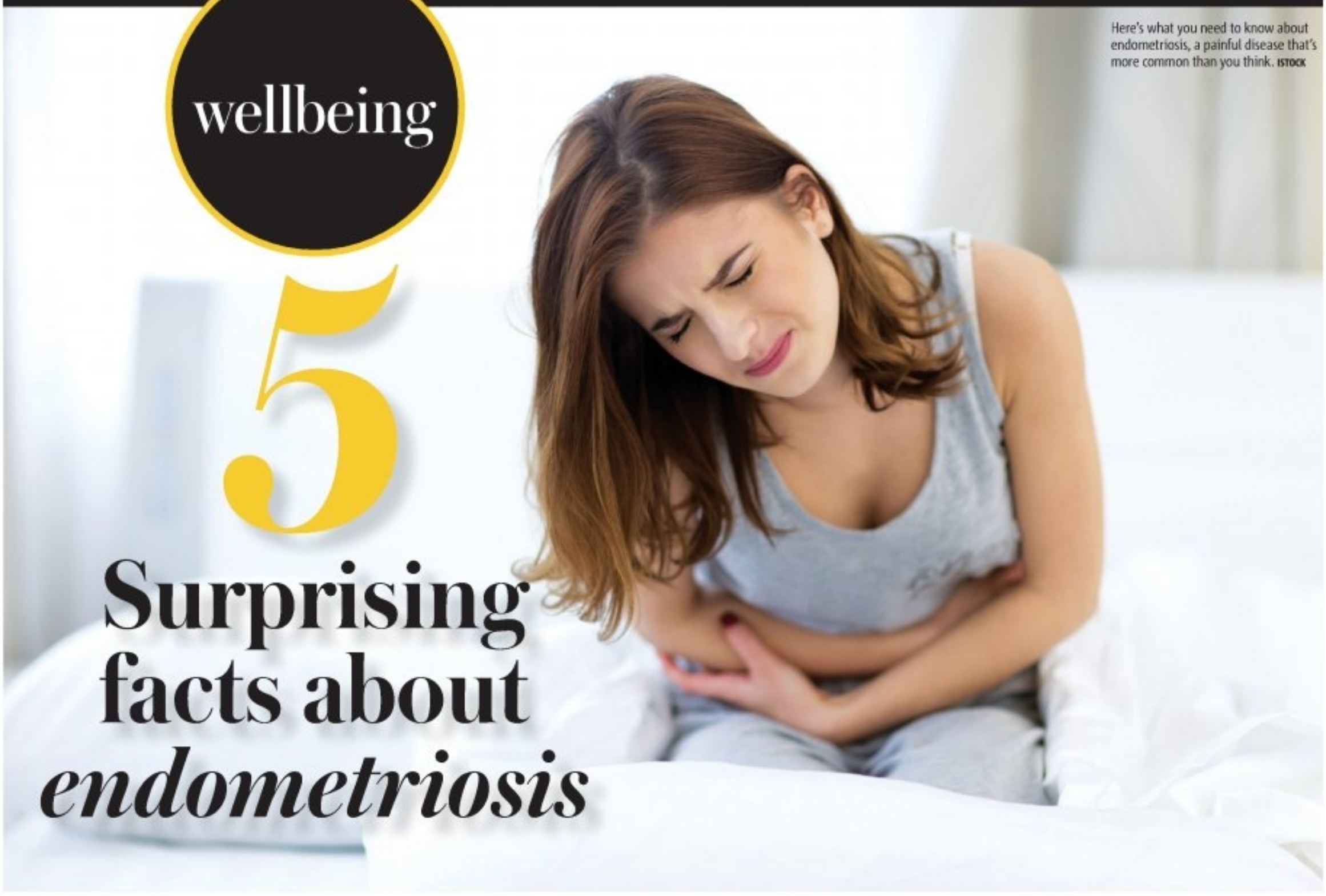

Here's what you need to know about endometriosis, a painful disease that's more common than you think. ISTOCK

5 Surprising facts about *endometriosis*

Here's what you need to know about the somewhat obscure, yet extremely painful, condition.

KATE MOONEY
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You might have heard about endometriosis from celebrities like Lena Dunham and Padma Lakshmi, who have been outspoken about their struggles with the obscure, yet painful condition. But do you know what it actually is and if you might be at risk? We spoke with Dr. Kathy Huang, OB/GYN and director of the Endometriosis Center at NYU Langone, about the ins and outs of the disease and common symptoms to watch out for. Here are five of the most surprising things we learned.

It's unclear what causes it

Endometriosis is an inflammatory disease that occurs when the endometrium, the uterine lining that a woman's body sheds each month during menstruation, attaches itself to an organ outside of the uterus. As to why on earth the endometrium would find its way out of the uterus, doctors don't exactly know, Huang explains. Wherever it attaches itself, the endometrium will continue to bleed each month during menstruation, creating a painful, swollen lesion that causes complications as it grows each month.

It's more common than you think

According to the Endometriosis Foundation of America, the disease affects one in 10 women in the U.S., and 176 million worldwide. But according to Dr. Huang, that number might be a lot higher because so many cases go undiagnosed. "People don't know what signs to look for," she explains. "A lot of women growing up have always been told that period pain is completely normal, just something you go through."

The common symptoms to watch out for include heavy periods and pelvic pain during menstruation (which sometimes begins before your period or continues well after) spotting in between menstrual cycles, digestive issues, painful intercourse and infertility. However, Huang notes that pain ranges from mild to severe, and in some cases, women are asymptomatic.

It can occur anywhere in the body

The endometrial lining can attach itself anywhere in the body, from the ovaries to the bladder, intestines to the lungs. The symptoms will manifest differently depending on the organ. A woman with endometriosis in her bladder might experience pain or difficulty urinating, while a woman with endometriosis in her chest might see her lungs collapse and filled up with blood.

Women can develop the disease any time during their reproductive years

While endometriosis most commonly affects women ages 30 to 40 years of age, any woman who menstruates is susceptible to it, from her first period until menopause. To diagnose the condition, a doctor will discuss symptoms with the patient and perform a physical exam, but an MRI, or a laparoscopy, in which a sample of the endometrial tissue is biopsied, is the only way to confirm it.

You can all but cure it

If you're not trying to get pregnant, taking birth control pills or hormonal contraceptives like the implant or progestin-based IUDS can suppress the growth of the endometrial lesions, and in some cases, dispel symptoms. However, this won't cure the condition. To eradicate the endometriosis requires surgical removal of the lesion and the scar tissue created by it. Treatment varies depending on the severity of the condition and the patient's goals, Huang explains.

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Carson Wentz in 2017
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Nick Foles in 2013
*13 games (10 starts)
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• Set record for TD-INT ratio (later broken)
• 8-2 team record
• 119.2 QB rating

The Eagles will turn the keys over to Nick Foles, who has playoff experience and has posted impressive numbers in Philly in the past. GETTY IMAGES

IT'S TIME TO RALLY AROUND FOLES — THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE

GLEN MACNOW

OPINION

Glen Macnow has been an outspoken voice in Philly sports for nearly three decades. @realglenmacnow

Never did clinching a division title feel this empty. One moment Carson Wentz slings his 33rd TD of the year to break the franchise record, and minutes later, Fox's Erin Andrews whispers that Eagles trainers were "shaking their heads" after jiggling Wentz's left knee in the locker room.

Even as Nick Foles and the defense persevered in Sunday's thrilling 43-35 win over the Rams, it seemed hollow. We lay in bed Sunday night wondering — again — why our team is cursed. The agony of victory.

Self-pity is acceptable under the circumstances. For the fans. Not for the franchise. The Eagles, from Doug Pederson down, reached 11-2 by showing character and resolve and creativity. They're not lowering their Super Bowl expectations.

Realistically, no one will say the odds didn't just get a lot slimmer. Wentz was the preemptive MVP of the league, the superstar who drew comparisons Sunday to Big Ben and John Elway.

But the show must go on. The Super Bowl will still be played on Feb. 4. And for the Eagles to get there without Wentz, here's what has to happen:

Jay Ajayi has to become the key to the offense. The Eagles run game has dominated all season, with contributions from LeGarrette Blount (684 yards) and Corey Clement (290 yards, 6 total TDs). But Ajayi has talent and versatility that made him the NFL's fourth-leading rusher in 2016. The Eagles picked him up for a measly 4th-round pick at the trade deadline with an eye toward the future. Well, the future is now. Give him 20 carries a game.

Nick Foles has to stand tall. Our old friend, Nicky Six, shook off rust and completed a huge pass to Nelson Agholor with Sunday's game on the line. Foles is among the NFL's top backup QBs – which, of course, is far from being among the top overall QBs.

Look, he'll never again be 27 TD, 2 INT Nick Foles. But his teammates respect and believe in him. Now it's on Pederson and Frank Reich to cobble an offense accentuating Foles' skills without exposing his weaknesses.

Essentially, he has to be Jeff Hostetler. You may not remember the mustachioed NY Giants backup who stepped in for an injured Phil Simms in 1990. Hostetler won the Super Bowl by throwing zero interceptions in three postseason games. Of course, Hostetler had the benefit of an outstanding Giants defense, which brings us to ...

The defense must be flawless. The talented Rams put up 35 Sunday, but the Eagles shut them down at the end, twice stuffing Todd Gurley for critical losses.

We've seen this group stifle the run, terrorize QBs and force an NFC-best 22 turnovers this season. As they gear toward the playoffs, they need to turn it up even more.

The three remaining opponents (Giants, Cowboys, Raiders) have a combined 15-24 record, which allows for a great shot at post-season home-field advantage, even without Wentz. That's more critical than ever.

If the 2017 Eagles have shown anything, it's resilience. They've won after losing Darren Sproles, Jordan Hicks, Ron Darby (for eight games) and Jason Peters.

None of those players means as much as Wentz. I won't lie and tell you his injury didn't crush my heart. It turns the Super Bowl quest into a trek up Mount Everest. But, hey, the Eagles mantra has been, "Next man up."

The fans owe it to the team to hang with that.

Sixers hoping to finally to end skid

The Sixers have lost four straight games for the first time this season and need to win in Minnesota Tuesday (a 9:30 p.m. start on ESPN) to stay above the .500 mark. Joel Embiid is expected to suit up after missing the last two games. GETTY IMAGES

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4 Burning questions about Eagles star QB Wentz and his torn ACL

With the wound still fresh for Eagles fans, here are the things everyone in Philadelphia is wondering about the Eagles fallen quarterback.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Carson Wentz's long-term future is suddenly an area of concern for the Eagles' front office and for Eagles' fans. GETTY IMAGES

Carson Wentz has a torn ACL. That we know. He will probably get surgery and the rehab. But information is scarce. The Eagles are chasing a Super Bowl — at 11-2 — and have a first round bye within reach. But fans are looking past this season already and into the future. Will that future contain a healthy Carson Wentz?

1 When will he return to the field?

According to most medical sources, recovery from a torn ACL can take anywhere from two to nine months. Assuming he has surgery — and it would happen soon — recovery from that procedure typically takes six months from going under the knife. That puts the worst case scenario at Wentz resuming athletic activities in August, during training camp. It is possible that he needs a few weeks during the 2018 regular season to get into playing shape. Though anyone who knows Wentz, and saw him hang in the game for four plays after hurting his knee (one of which was a fourth down touchdown pass to put Philly back on top against the Rams), he could buck every trend and be ready sooner rather than later.

2 Will he ever be the same player?

Wentz plays recklessly. Which is one of the reasons he's been so beloved by Eagles fans. He takes hit after hit and asks for more. He steps up into the pocket and releases the ball at the last second time after time. He scrambles, dives, lunges and extends plays and uses his body magnificently. Will he ever have confidence in his left knee again?

Many have lamented that after the surgery he will come back a different play with less dynamic play-making ability. Here's hoping he never changes.

3 Can Nick Foles fill his shoes?

Nick Foles knows what he's doing. As one of the better backups in the NFL, with playoff experience and with time leading the Eagles under his belt all hope may not be lost. Eagles head coach Doug Pederson spoke with confidence Monday.

"Nick has played a ton of football," Pederson said. "I was here when we drafted him, and we drafted him for a reason. Then we went out and got him again this off-season for a reason. You never want it to be under these circumstances, but at the same time same time, my confidence is extremely high in Nick. You saw what he did in that game last night."

4 Can the Eagles still win the Super Bowl?

The Eagles odds to win it all, and to advance to various degrees of merit haven't changed as much as you'd think in the wake of Wentz' injury. According to Sportsline, Philadelphia has a 90.3 percent to earn the No. 1 seed in the NFC (it was 93.9 percent with Wentz). In the playoffs they have almost the same odds to make it to the Super Bowl, at 34.5 percent down from 37.4. Their chances of winning the big game dipped to 15.5 percent from 18.3 percent with Wentz.

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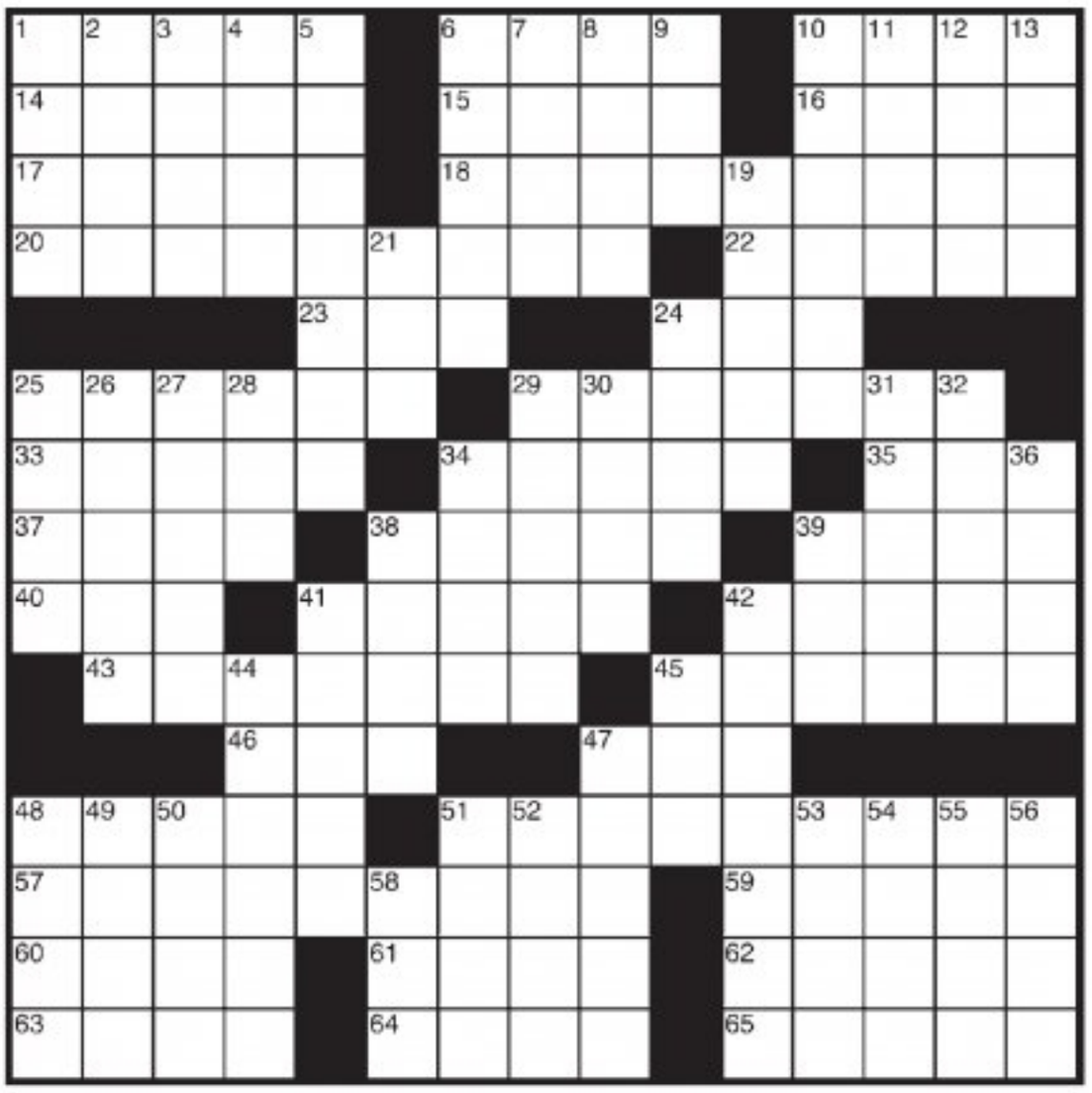

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							2	7
4		2		6				3

hard

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	2	1				8	3	
					3			7
8			9					
3		4	1	8	5	7		9
					7			4
2			8					
	8	7				9	6	
		3		5			1	8

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Make a change that will improve your standard of living and ease your everyday stress. Better life choices will give you more time for romance.

Taurus Take care of personal finances, health issues and any pending settlements before it's too late. Let go of the past and accept the inevitable.

Gemini You'll face opposition if you try to make changes that someone doesn't want. Expect a rival to use tactics that can undermine you and your plans.

Cancer Don't let your emotions take the reins. Avoid getting into a spat with anyone at work or home. Keeping the peace is in your best interest. Be ready and willing to compromise.

Leo Fix up your place. Add to your home entertainment system or do something with the youngsters in your family that will get them excited about upcoming events.

Virgo Use your intelligence and insight to get others to see things your way. Manipulative or forceful tactics are not recommended; persuasion is the way to go.

Libra Doing something to help your community will be enlightening. If you share your thoughts with a friend, together you can make someone's dream come true.

Scorpio Money matters should be addressed. You may want to make some changes to your personal finances or documents before the year's end.

Sagittarius You'll thrive on being challenged. Your ability to take whatever is thrown at you and turn it into something great will put you in a leadership category.

Capricorn Choose your words wisely and use common sense, not brute force, to get what you want. Trying to pressure or manipulate others will result in a stalemate.

Aquarius Intellect, desire and a plan that will help you stick to a strict budget while still enjoying the interests and pastimes that make you happy will help you succeed.

Pisces You'll have to use common sense when dealing with partners, colleagues and matters that could influence your position, status or reputation. EUGENIA LAST

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■	■	■	A	L	A	■	R	E	P	U	L	S	E	■
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EXTRA 15% OFF SELECT SALE JEWELRY, WATCHES, SHOES, COATS, SUITS, DRESSES, LINGERIE, SWIM FOR HER, SUIT SEPARATES & SPORT COATS FOR HIM & HOME ITEMS.
Use your Macy's Card 12/12-12/13/17. In store only. Exclusions apply.

EXCLUDES ALL: Deals of the Day, Doorbusters, Everyday Values (EDV), Last Act, Macy's Backstage, specials, Super Buys, athletic clothing/shoes/accessories, baby gear, cosmetics/fragrances, designer handbags, designer jewelry/watches, designer sportswear, electrics/electronics, furniture/mattresses, gift cards, jewelry trunk shows, select licensed depts., previous purchases, restaurants, rugs, services, smart watches/jewelry, special orders, special purchases, select tech accessories, toys, 3Doodler, American Rug Craftsmen, Anova, Apple Products, Ashley Graham, Avec Les Filles clothing, Barbour, Brahmin, Breville, Briggs & Riley, Brooks Brothers Red Fleece, COACH, Demeyere, Destination Maternity, Dyson, Eileen Fisher SYSTEM, Fitbit, Frye, Global Cutlery, Hanky Panky, Jack Spade, Judith Leiber, Karastan, kate spade new york, Kenneth Cole men's shoes, Kiehl's, KitchenAid Pro Line, Le Creuset, Levi's, littleBits, Locker Room by Lids, Marc Jacobs, select Michael Kors/Michael Michael Kors, Michele watches, Miyabi, Movado Bold, Natori, Nike swim, Original Penguin, Panache, Rimowa, Rudsak, Sam Edelman, Shun, Spanx, Staub, Stuart Weitzman, S'well, Tempur-Pedic mattresses, The North Face, Theory, Tommy John, Tory Burch, Tumi, UGG®, Uttermost, Vans, Vitamix, Wacoal, Wolford & Wüsthof; PLUS, ONLINE ONLY: kids' shoes, Allen Edmonds, Birkenstock, Hurley, Johnston & Murphy, Merrell, RVCA & Tommy Bahama. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer except opening a new Macy's account. Extra savings % applied to reduced prices. Purchase must be $50 or more, exclusive of tax and delivery charges.

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ONE DAY SALE PRICES IN EFFECT 12/12-12/13/2017. MERCHANDISE WILL BE ON SALE AT THESE & OTHER SALE PRICES THROUGH 1/2/18, EXCEPT AS NOTED.
HOW MACY'S MONEY WORKS: We'll give you $10 Macy's Money for every $50 you spend, up to a $40 Macy's Money Reward Card in a single transaction. EXCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES: Apple Products, tech watches/jewelry/accessories, gift cards, furniture, mattresses, rugs, Macybed, services & fees, sales tax, phone & live chat orders, leased depts., restaurants, international orders, e-gifting, online backorders. USE YOUR MACY'S MONEY REWARD CARD in stores & online 12/19-12/24/2017. May not be redeemed for cash, used to purchase Macy's Gift Cards or applied as payment or credit to your credit card account. If a purchase used to accumulate Macy's Money is returned, your return may result in a reduction of the value of your Macy's Money Reward Card and/or a reduction of your total refund amount. The remaining balance of your Macy's Money Reward Card will reflect the Macy's Money amount you qualify for after deducting the returned item(s) from your original purchase amount.